

Bell Farm Curriculum Newsletter Spring 2016



Year 2

Dear Parents/Carers,
It's been a very exciting term already and we are all looking forward to a very successful 2016. So far this term we have been learning about Africa and we have been reading the book 'Lila and the Secret of Rain'. We have written great diary entries based on the story. We have also enjoyed learning new strategies in maths through games and investigations. In Art, Year 2 have created fantastic paintings based on Vincent van Gogh's work and we have also been learning all about Samuel Pepys and the Plague. Recently we took part in a Great Fire of London workshop which was great fun! Soon we will be visiting Wisley Gardens as part of our Science topic. We also can't wait for the Winter Disco and to celebrate World Book day this term!
Thank you for your continued support.
From the Year 2 team.

What we're learning this term:

English: Our next key texts are Winnie the Witch and The Jolly Postman. Focus on letter writing, characters and settings and spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Maths: We will be using methods for all four number operations and applying them to problem solving.

Science: Living things and their habitats and Forces and Movement.

History: The Great Fire of London and the Plague.

Geography: Comparing the UK and Europe.

Art/DT: Design a plant pot, and study of an artist (Vincent van Gogh/Leonardo da Vinci).

RE: The Easter Story and What is a church?

Music: Recorder and singing.

Coming up soon!

- Year 2 trip to Wisley Gardens is on Monday 22nd February.
- World Book Day is on Thursday 3rd March.
- The Winter Disco for Year 2 is on Tuesday 9th February from 4.30 - 5.15pm.
- Recorder concert- Friday 11th March at 9.30am.
- Year 2 SATs parents' information meeting on Monday 18th April at 3.30pm in hall or 7.00pm in the gym.

Changes to curriculum and assessment at Bell Farm:

As you are aware we no longer use levels for assessment. Children are now judged against year-end expectations and, at the end of the year, will be graded as either **early development towards the expected standard, working towards the expected standard, working at the expected standard or working at the expected standard at greater depth.** When discussing your child's progress we will be able to tell you which grade they are on track to achieve at the end of the year but the main focus of our discussion will of course be on your child's strengths and areas for development. In Year 2 pupils will sit the new SATs and there is now a new assessment that measures their understanding of spelling, grammar and punctuation in the new curriculum. There is also a new arithmetic paper that assesses their mental and written methods for calculations.